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14 February 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DC/MS attended a meeting this date in regard to the [REDACTED] project sponsored by TSS, at which a presentation was made by Dr. [REDACTED]

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25X1A9a [REDACTED] briefing emphasized six fundamental objectives which he regards as desirable needs of the Agency, and it appeared that the basic intent of the meeting was to convince [REDACTED] that these needs are realistic requirements. It is of significance to note that a similar presentation was to be made within a few hours to Mr. Dulles.

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Although no notes were taken, for obvious reasons, the six Agency "needs" were essentially as follows:

1. A study of the human brain in relation to the effects of chemical and pharmacological agents. (This was interpreted as a basically physiological and neurological investigation.)
2. An investigation of the forces that affect the human psychological structure to the greatest degree (this was interpreted as a research exercise aimed at the most affective areas of vulnerability to psychological warfare or other methods of control).
3. The understanding of the most effective means of producing alterations in reaction or behavior (this was interpreted as an analysis of the most efficacious psychological warfare weapons and techniques, as well as methods of agent control).
4. Assessment of individuals (this was presumably concerned chiefly with agents and [REDACTED] commented that to date no testing system has been provided with any validity).

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6. A suitable number of consultants trained in the foregoing fields for the purpose of implementing these objectives.

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██████████ indicated that his study group was already engaged in certain of these projects; these include at least numbers 1, 2 and 5, with some peripheral activity in the remaining items.

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██████████, a rather youthful associate of ██████████ apparently handles the clinical aspects (physical examinations, etc.) of the program, but he admitted a strong interest in the effects of stress as well as case officer-agent relationship. The latter he likened to the doctor-patient relationship.

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There was a fairly lengthy discussion of brain washing which concluded by tacit agreement that the American people should be educated on the subject so that any mystery or exotic implications of secret Soviet weapons would be dispelled. ██████████ described brain washing as nothing more than the age-old technique of systematized punishment, stating that cruelty is cruelty regardless of the particular methods employed.

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Following ██████████ presentation, ██████████ commented that the program was indeed of vast scope. He asked how many persons were involved in the study group and was advised that there were approximately twenty. He gave no indication of approval or disapproval, but implied by the absence of pointed questions that his interest at this point was passive.

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